FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Syria's view is that the "Phalangist authority's behavior" is complicating the situation in an attempt to avoid the "radical solutions" adopted at the Geneva conference "and which must continue through this conference," *TISHRIN* declared in an editorial reported by Damascus radio. Charging that the Lebanese Government intends to "shirk" its agreements with the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement signed at the National Dialogue Conference, the paper said President Amin al-Jumayyil is attempting to implement the May 1983 agreement with Israel under "propitious" regional circumstances and with U.S. military support.

Coinciding with Syria's renewed criticism of the Al-Jumayyil regime, Radio Monte Carlo confirmed that Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt has called for Al-Jumayyil's resignation. In a written statement cited by the radio, Junblatt said the PSP will not participate with Al-Jumayyil in any government, under any formula. The PSP's Voice of Truth radio also broadcast an appeal by Junblatt to Druze fighters to confront the "new plot" and denounced the security plan as an attempt to "outflank, besiege, and expel" the PSP forces.

Commenting on Junblatt's hostility toward the security plan, a Western diplomatic source in Damascus told Radio Monte Carlo that the Druze leader retracted his agreement with the plan after being "surprised" by the Lebanese Government's decision to withhold promotions for Druze officers in Hammanah garrison.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraq has received SS-12 missiles mounted on mobile platforms from the Soviet Union, according to diplomatic sources in Baghdad cited by WAKH. The missiles can reach targets deep inside Iran including Khark Island, which will be a prime target if Iraq carries out its threat to use "sophisticated" weapons to counter any new Iranian offensive, the sources said. Meanwhile, the Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine urged Greek shipowners to keep their ships away from military operations zones in the Gulf, Athens radio reported.

Iran

The Supreme Judicial Council, in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, announced its acceptance of Revolution Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi's resignation and said it has notified the state prosecutor general to arrange the "transfer and reorganization" of the revolution prosecutor general's office.

Israel

In preliminary talks with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Jerusalem on 24 January, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed Israel's "firm opposition" to the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia, warning the German leader that Saudi Arabia "is not the moderate state that people in Europe believe it is," Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asserted that any arms supplied to Saudi Arabia will be used against Israel "directly or indirectly."

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee will hold a series of meetings in Tunis shortly to make preliminary arrangements for Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, which will begin on 28 January, Tunis radio reported citing a Palestinian source. The meetings will start after 'Arafat returns from his current visit to Senegal, the source disclosed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Arab Parliamentary Union currently meeting in San'a' will include in its deliberations a "controversial" Sudanese proposal to reinstate Egypt in the union, KUNA reported. In another development, an Iraqi delegation led by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan arrived in Amman on 25 January for talks with King Husayn and other ranking officials, Amman radio reported.

Maghreb Affairs

Tunisian Opposition Statement — The Movement of Social Democrats has called on President Habib Bourguiba to "abandon" the chairmanship of the ruling party and to "separate the organs of the state from the structure of the party," KUNA reported. The movement's statement also called for dissolution of the National Assembly, "free elections as soon as possible with the participation of all active forces," the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners, and the return of exiled nationalists. The movement rejected the committee established by Bourguiba to investigate the causes for the recent riots, calling instead for a national committee "representing all political and social trends," KUNA added.

Moroccan Paper Confiscated — For the second day, authorities have confiscated all copies of the opposition left-wing paper *AL-BAYAN* without explanation, KUNA reported.

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U.S.-PRC Similarity of Views Examined

LD242151 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] "The China Wall Does Not Exist" is the title of an editorial comment in today's *HAQIQAT-E ENGLABE SAWR*. It reads:

Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, at the end of his visit to the United States, said in his speech at the U.S. foreign policy association that both sides have complete similarity of views regarding Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

This harmony and identity of views is not new nor is it a gain of the historic visit of Zhao Ziyang. The leaders of Beijing many times before have found their ally in the body of imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism, in attaining their hegemonist objectives. However, in the 80's they behaved as such in order to give open support for the warmongering imperialist forces and reactionary circles in all corners of the world.

After the April Revolution, when the unholy alliance of imperialist and reactionary forces came into being against the Afghanistan revolution, Beijing's hegemonists, because of the effects of their striving and endeavor, took position No 2 in the perpetrators of the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan.

If the United States sent large loads of arms to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, China added antitank rockets. If Washington gave orders to the CIA to organize the undeclared war or to establish counterrevolutionary training camps for the implementation of subversive actions inside the DRA, Beijing gave instruction to its intelligence service to launch provocative clashes on the Afghan borders in close cooperation with the CIA.

China's intelligence service began giving military training to counterrevolutionary bands on China's soil. When China's cooperation with Pakistan became more harmonious in the arming and training of Afghan reactionaries, Chinese spies, on the side of the CIA, took actions in camps situated in Peshawar on the borders of Afghanistan.

One group, to be operational in Afghanistan in creating armed groups, was given military training in one of Pakistan's garrisons, paid for by China and United States.

Chinese intelligence service personnel created terrorist groups. Beijing financed, armed, and provoked various nationalist groups, in particular Maoist groups, to perpetrate subversive actions. The Chinese spies broadened their work among the Maoist groups in Afghanistan having close cooperation with reactionary circles.

The Chinese authorities, upon application from Gulbuddin, accepted many hundreds of Afghan counterrevolutionaries for training for subversive actions. The Qaraqorum highway was transformed into a highway for arming and financing Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

If the United States with (?loud), false, and propagandistic voice, sung the song of Afghan occupation, the hostile propagandistic tune of China joined in.

If the U.S. secretaries of defense and of state visited Pakistan to inspect the training camps for Afghan counterrevolutionaries and to promise the rebels further weapons and dollars, it would have been impossible for the Chinese ministers of foreign affairs and defense not to visit the Afghan counterrevolutionaries and not to give them the promise of military assistance.

Such examples are too many. What is clear is that the Chinese wall between the United States and the People's Republic of China no longer exists. Not only do the two carry out joint operations with regard to Afghan issues and Kampuchean problems, but in the international arena they have a similarity of views.

SPA: Soviet Officer Killed, Helicopters Downed

LD242235 Riyadh SPA in English 1822 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 24, SPA — A Soviet officer was shot and killed in broad daylight in Afghan capital's Karte-seh District on January 19, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources said the Soviet officer was riding a black Volga when he was reportedly shot by young men wearing black jackets. They added that Soviet-Afghan troops cordoned off the area and began an intensive search operation as well as arrested nearly 50 young men wearing black jackets. But, the sources said the actual killers had escaped.

The sources said the mujahideen had succeeded in downing three Soviet helicopters with heavy machinegun fire while heavy fighting raged around the historic Ghazni city in central Afghanistan in late December and early January.

On the other hand, the mujahideen killed 24 Afghan Government troops and knocked out several armoured personnel carriers in Paghman Valley in north-west of Kabul on January 13, the sources added.

Counterrevolutionaries Killed in Two Provinces

LD241754 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Armed Forces' crushing of counterrevolutionary groups is continuing successfully in various parts of the country.

Successful operations carried out recently by the country's vigilant security forces, with the cooperation of people in Chechaktu and (Yama Pesta) villages of Faryab Province, resulted in 17 of these murderers and their ringleader, belonging to the so-called Jami'at-e Eslami, being killed; two of them were captured.

A Faryab Province security force source told a EAKHTAR correspondent that large quantities of weapons and ammunition were seized from these murderers.

In the course of successful operations carried out recently by the country's security forces in Sarowbi Subdistrict, Paktika Province, 30 counterrevolutionary elements who were disrupting the peaceful lives of the people in this subdistrict were killed. Seventeen antitank and personnel mines, 22 vehicles, 1,500 rounds of ammunition, 10 recoilless cannon shells, a quantity of foodstuff, 200 blankets, and 40 boxes of medicine were also seized. Two heavy machineguns, one mortar, and one recoilless cannon were destroyed.

BAKHTAR Statement on New Information Order

LD250655 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 25 Jan 84

["Struggle Against Information Imperialism" — BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, January 24, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BTA writes: On January 26 a conference of information ministers of non-aligned countries will open in Jakarta. The conference participants — representatives of over 100 nations and organizations — will focus their attention on the establishment of a new, just information order and on the ensurance of a coordinated flow of information about the life of their states.

Three events which were held on the eve of the conference are interlinked and have bearing on the topics of the forthcoming forum. They have stressed once again the vital necessity of solving these problems and have accentuated difficulties on that road.

Firstly, the first conference of journalists of non-aligned countries was held in New Delhi. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, stressed that Western mass media almost does not feature reports on the life in developing countries, unless a disaster or serious disorders take place. Expressing will of non-aligned countries, she stated that the right to be heard is one of the basic rights of each man, organization and nation.

Secondly, the United States has obtained Sri Lanka's consent to use the territory of that country for expanding the activity of the Voice of America broadcasting station. The USA is planning to establish there a radio complex which will be the most powerful in that part of the world. It will include four broadcasting stations with a capacity of 500 kilowatts and two stations with a capacity of 250 kilowatts. Programmes from the USA will be beamed through this complex in fifty languages on countries of South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

The third event is that the United States has announced its forthcoming withdrawal from UNESCO. In the past Washington has repeatedly blackmailed that international organization by statements that the USA will not invest in UNESCO's budget, if that organization does not change its policy in the field of "control over information." Thus, the attempts of developing countries to find their own voice and to strengthen their mass media and UNESCO's striving to help them in this have been met with Washington's insolent demarche.

Today four major Western news agencies account for the distribution of 90 percent of all news in the world. Every day AP transmits 17 million words, UPI to 14 million words, FRANCE PRESSE 3 million words and REUTERS 1.5 million words. However, the information flow of these news agencies resembles a one-way street. For instance, AP daily sends 90,000 words to Asia, but receives only 19,000 words from that continent.

Due to this situation the overwhelming flow of Western information creates in developing countries a biased picture of world events and even of events in these countries themselves, imposes Western political and cultural standards on newly independent states and enables imperialist propaganda services to stage practically unhindered ideological sabotage.

The struggle for a new international information order has developed since the early 1970's. Developing countries put forward a number of concrete proposals on this issue. In 1975 a pool of news agencies of Non-aligned countries was established. It includes now 87 countries. Although the pool's possibility of disseminating information are so [word indistinct] great (50,000 words per 24 hours), it activley opposes Western news agencies in some respects. On the poll's initiative new press agencies and information dissemination centres were established.

At the 19th session of the UNESCO general conference in Nairobi in 1976 the Soviet Union submitted a draft declaration on the basic principles of international information. At that time Western countries blocked its adoption.

However, under the pressure of socialist and developing countries the draft declaration was again submitted to the 20th session of UNESCO general conference in Paris in 1978 and was adopted. The declaration is a comprehensive charter of the principles of international information exchanges for the benefit of peace and cooperation.

At its 21st session the UNESCO General Conference took a decision on launching the international programme for the development of communication to improve the structure of the mass media and to bridge a gap between various countries in the information field. The implementation of the programme is coordinated by the inter-governmental council which consists of representatives of 35 members states elected by the UNESCO general conference on the basis of equal geographical representation and with the application of the priority principle.

The council handles its own funds designed specially for promoting the development of communications in developing countries. Funds are distributed among projects and programmes in conformity with criteria and priorities determined by the Council.

There are also voluntary contributions to the programme about 5 million dollars and they are now used for financing 33 projects. The programme helped to found regional pools of news agencies of developing countries — the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY and the organization of ASIA PACIFIC NEWS agencies.

The first session of the inter-governmental council of the programme held in Paris in June 1981 determined the basic principles of the work associated with the implementation of first projects in developing countries beginning with 1982. The second session, held in January 1982, discussed problems of financing 54 projects to the tune of (?85) million dollars. However, only 6 million dollars were available. While representatives of socialist and developing countries — the Soviet union, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Mexico, India and Iraq — reported concrete contributions to the programme's fund, Western powers, such as the United States, West Germany and also Japan and some other states refused to assume any concrete commitments.

Last autumn Tashkent was the venue of the fourth session of the programme's inter-governmental council. The session approved 28 projects of aid to developing nations. All told, by the present time the programme's inter-governmental Council has recommended 102 such projects.

In contradiction with the attitude of the West towards this issue the socialist world and [words indistinct] union suport the demand of developing countries about the establishment of a new international information order both by words and deeds.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is fully aware of the importance of information in the struggle for peace, against the arms race and for mutually beneficial cooperation and mutual understanding among nations. The DRA is an active participant of the struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order.

However, under the conditions of the "psychological war" imposed by the United States and the USA's fierce resistance to the establishment of fair international relations in the information field as is evident, for instance from America's decision to walk out of UNESCO, the establishment of such order will call for long and stubborn struggle.

Two New Clandestine Radios Monitored

WA241511 [Editorial Report] An anti-Soviet clandestine radio station identifying itself as "Voice of Afghan Mujahidin" was monitored on 5 January on 3658 khz, with programming in Dari and Pashto. Various press agencies have reported that this station is using a 500-watt transmitter set up in the eastern mountains of Afghanistan. According to reports, it went on the air on 25 December 1983.

Since 15 January, programs from a clandestine station opposing the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and identifying itself as "Voice of Afghanistan" have been monitored in Dari, Pashto, and Uzbek at 1530-1615 GMT, on a frequency varying between 6270 and 6290 khz.

Delhi: Police Use Tear Gas To Disperse Crowd

BK250328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, police fired tear gas shells and made a lathi [baton] charge to disperse a crowd which assembled in front of the Bangladesh Awami league office yesterday. The crowd had gathered there for a meeting to observe the 15th anniversary of the mass upsurge day of 1969. The 15-party alliance organized a meeting at the Awami League office [passage indistinct] issues like elections can only be decided by a sovereign elected parliament.

Ershad Describes ICO Summit as Fruitful

BK220829 Dhaka BSS in English 0714 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 22, BSS — Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has reiterated here that his foreign minister, A.R.S. Doha, continues to be the candidate for the post of secretary-general of ICO which put off the election till end of the current year.

Talking to newsmen on his return from Casablanca after attending the fourth Islamic summit conference he said yesterday: Bangladesh is very much in the run for the post and we are optimistic about the success in the election for the new secretary-general.

The president described the Casablanca summit as fruitful and expressed his happiness at its outcome.

Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrator To Visit PRC

BK221301 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The deputy chief martial law administrator and energy minister, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, is going to China today on a 10-day official visit. The visit takes place at the invitation of the Chinese government.

Air Vice Marshal Mahmud will hold discussions with his counterpart and other Chinese leaders on matters of bilateral and mutual interest.

Government Returns Newspaper to Private Owner

BK241059 Dhaka BSS in English 0950 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Dhaka Jan 24 (BSS) — The government have returned the leading English daily *BANGLADESH OBSERVER* to the original private owner who had founded the newspaper over three decades back. The government had taken over the control of the largest-circulated English daily immediately the liberation of Bangladesh. [sentence as received]

Briefs

Canadian Grant — Canada will give Bangladesh 10-crore 73 lakh taka as an additional grant for the implementation of the central load dispatch center project. A memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed in Dhaka yesterday between the two countries. The objective of this project is to assist the power development board to ensure the liability, quality, safety, and efficiency of the power network. [Excerpt] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 18 Jan 84 BK]

Japanese Grant — Dhaka Jan 20 BSS — Bangladesh will receive U.S.$5 million as a grant from Japan for setting up a pharmaceutical formulation plant under a bilateral agreement signed here yesterday. The grant will be utilised by the government in establishing the plant in the northern city of Bogra in a year's time from now. [Dhaka BSS in English 0604 GMT 20 Jan 84 BK]

Demonstrators Protest Outside U.S. Embassy

BK241613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Workers of the All-India Kaumi Ekta [National Solidarity] Committee today demonstrated before the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi against the supply of nuclear weapons to Pakistan and the establishment of U.S. military bases there. They also presented a memorandum to a representative of the embassy.

Indian-U.S. Subcommission Opens 4-Day Session

BK250429 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Four working groups of the Indo-U.S. subcommission will identify new areas of collaboration between the two countries. On the opening day of the 4-day session of the commission in New Delhi yesterday, it was also agreed that the two sides will indicate sources of funds for projects to be taken up. The schemes launched with U.S. collaboration last year include a 2-crore 80-lakh dollar umbrella project for agricultural research; a 4-crore dollar scheme on irrigation, training, and management; and a 2-crore dollar project on development and management.

India is likely to achieve a large favorable balance of trade with the United States during 1983. This may amount to nearly $400 million. In 1978-79, India had a nominal favorable balance of trade of 10-crore rupees. The latest figures for the first 10 months of 1983 show that India's exports to USA reached a record level of over $1800 million, while imports have been contained resulting in a favorable trade balance of over $320 million.

Conflicting Reports on Kashmir Situation Cited

BK241625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] A number of Congress-I supporters, including the district president, Mirza Rashid, and members of the legislative assembly, Master Bali Ram and Main Bashir, are said to have been injured today in Rajauri in Jammu and Kashmir. According to a spokesman of the pradesh [state] Congress-I, 100 people were injured when police resorted to lathi [baton] charges on a peaceful procession of the Congress-I in protest against the policies of the state government.

The spokesman said that 400 party workers, including some women, were also arrested when they took out a protest march in contravention of prohibitory orders in the Jammu region.

An official spokesman, however, denied the report of any lathi charge or injury to anyone in Rajauri. He said 130 Congress-I workers who courted arrest in Jammu were later released.

The union deputy law minister, Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, has described the situation in Jammu and Kashmir as very serious. He was addressing the first district level convention of the pradesh youth Congress-I in Jammu today.

A national conference member of parliament [MP] from Jammu and Kashmir, Mr Abdul Rashid (Pabni), has alleged that a memorandum submitted to the president by some Congress-I MP's yesterday contained fictitious charges against the state government. In a statement in New Delhi today, he said the Congress-I team's plea to the center to intervene in the state is fraught with many dangers to the state and the country at large.

West Bengal Chief Minister Writes Gandhi

BK250425 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, has said he has written a letter to Mrs Gandhi about the alleged attack of Congress-I workers on the Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, at the Calcutta Airport recently. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi yesterday, he said Mrs Gandhi had defended her partymen as she had been wrongly informed about the incident.

Bhutan King Arrives 25 January for State Visit

BK250855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan arrived in the capital this afternoon on a 4-day state visit. He will be the chief guest at the Republic Day parade. The king will have talks with the president, Giani Zail Singh; the vice president, Mr Hidayatullah; and the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi. The president will host a banquet in his honor today.

Zia Comments on Islamic Conference, Foreign Ties

PM251506 Jidda UKAZ in Arabic 25 Jan 84 p 3

[Interview with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq by Ahmad Ad-Dus in Medina — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: What do you think of the results of the fourth Islamic conference held in Casablanca?

Answer: I have attended two such conferences. On the basis of my experience in this connection, I say that the Casablanca conference has produced extremely successful and far-reaching results. The success of this conference was due to the efforts exerted by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz during this conference and also as chairman of the third conference held in At-Ta'if.

Question: Do you not believe Egypt's return to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] will lead to the withdrawal of some other Islamic states, and how can we have consensus if such a situation arises?

Answer: No Islamic state would deviate from the Islamic summit conference. Everyone is in favor of Egypt's return. The only difference lies in the views on Arab nationalism held by certain Arab states. The resolution adopted by the conference was very clear and was reached democratically. The resolution on Egypt's return was unanimous.

Question: Your Excellency, some people claim that Pakistan is passing through difficult times which may lead to some problems, particularly in view of the postponement of the elections. What is your answer to these people?

Answer: Steps must be taken to improve the atmosphere and rectify matters in Pakistan. We cannot say that elections are the only way to restore democracy.

Question: How much ground has Pakistan covered in its efforts to apply shari'a?

Answer: We have made considerable progress in the application of the Islamic law in all fields. God willing, we will continue to apply it. If there is still something to be done, we will complete it in the near future, God willing.

Question: What chances are there for the resumption of the mission of the good offices committee concerning Iran and Iraq, and when will the committee resume its efforts?

Answer: Efforts to stop the war are continuing and so are the exchanges of views.

Question: After the recent contacts between Pakistan and Iran, are there any positive results that may reflect on future Islamic action?

Answer: We have always had contacts with the state of Iran. We have been making efforts from the very beginning so that we may move forward together. We enjoyed good relations with neighboring Iran, but after the coup the Iranian media disseminated some anti-Pakistan ideas. The atmosphere is now good, however, and we now have good relations with Iran. Efforts must be made to achieve Islamic unity and the only way to do it is by putting an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Question: How do you assess relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Pakistan?

Answer: Relations between the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are strong, solid, and ideal. They are model relations.

Question: What is the state of relations with Bangladesh and India, bearing in mind the recent situation in Afghanistan?

Answer: I just want to say that the position of Bangladesh is the same as that of Pakistan and the Islamic states. The Islamic summit conference in Casablanca issued a resolution on this matter. India's position is also the same as that of Pakistan, but India does not want to say so openly because of its good relations with the Soviets.

CTK Cites BAKHTAR on Border Regions Unrest

LD251122 Prague CTK in English 1035 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Kabul (CETEKA correspondent) — A new wave of unrest broke out in the northwestern border regions of Pakistan. The Afghan news agency BAKHTAR reported a spate of bomb attacks in the area of Peshawar where most of the anti-Afghans terrorist organizations have their headquarters.

One strong explosion damaged the Peshawar residence of one of the leaders of the Afghan counterrevolution, Sebqatollah Mojadedi, and killed a member of his family.

Other bomb attacks occurred in two training camps of Afghan bandits.

The agency also reported growing resistance in the border province to the repressive measures of the Pakistani military authorities. A demonstration of a Pushtu tribe, the Safi, grew into widespread disturbances during which two power lines were destroyed.

SRI LANKA

Buddhist Group Withdraws From Roundtable Talks

BK240950 Hong Kong AFP in English 0932 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 24 (AFP) — A powerful Sinhalese Buddhist group has decided to withdraw from the roundtable conference aimed at seeking solutions to Sri Lanka's ethnic problems, a spokesman said today.

The Sinhala associations, an alliance of some nine Sinhalese Buddhist organisations, will not return to the talks when they resume tonight after a three-day break as the conference has failed to accept its suggestions on how to tackle the issues under discussion, the spokesman, Gamini Iriyagolle, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"What has happened so far is a mixed discussion of problems and solutions. This is not going to take us anywhere. That is why we want the problems identified first and solutions sought for them," Mr Iriyagolle said.

President Junius Jayewardene called the conference following clashes between the majority Sinhalese and the minority Tamils last July which left nearly 400 people, mostly Tamils, dead and 100,000 homeless.

Cabinet Decides To Amend Narcotics Ordinance

BK191225 Colombo THE SUN in English 5 Jan 84 pp 1, 2

[By Delrine Wijeratne and Sriyani Bede]

[Excerpt] The death penalty, life imprisonment and other stringent penalties will be imposed on those trafficking, possessing, importing or exporting narcotics, the Cabinet decided yesterday.

It also decided to set up a national Dangerous Drugs Control Board to formulate and review national policy for the control, prevention and rehabilitation of drug abuses and addicts.

The decisions came when ministers gave approval to introduce amendments to the Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, acting Cabinet Spokesman and Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Employment, Ranil Wickramasinghe, told yesterday's news briefing.

The amendments were recommended to the Cabinet by President J.R. Jayewardene in his capacity as Minister of Defence.

Mr Wickramasinghe said they will be introduced in Parliament shortly. Besides the imposition of the death penalty and life imprisonment, he said punishment has also been enhanced for lesser offences. Provisions will be made for High Courts to sit without a jury to try persons for offences related to possession, manufacture and abuse of dangerous drugs.

The National Dangerous Drug Control Board, Mr Wickramasinghe said will comprise a chairman, a public officer of an executive grade, a nominee of the Inspector-General of Police, a nominee of the Director of Health Services and two other experienced personnel. The proposed board will also coordinate activities of the associated governmental organisations and institutions dealing with this subject.

WEEKEND in its issue of November 6 highlighted the increasing drug menace in a report by its insight team.

The insight report said that Lankan youth in large numbers were falling victim to heroin addiction and pointed out that in less than a year it had developed into a problem of grave magnitude which the country's leading psychiatrists and law enforcement officers felt may have already gone out of control.

The team also highlighted the inadequacy in legal teeth to control the menace, law enforcement problems faced by the narcotics bureau and the total lack of rehabilitation facilities for addicts.

Prosecutor General's Resignation Accepted

LD241145 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Supreme Judicial Council held a session this morning attended by its members and the justice minister. At the start of the session, each member submitted a report on issues relating to his jurisdiction. The Armed Forces Islamic Revolution prosecutor then came before the session and gave explanations regarding issues and problems concerning his jurisdiction. The council gave the necessary guidance. He also submitted to the council members a report on the trial of the leaders of the defunct treacherous Tudeh Party.

The issue of the resignation of the revolution prosecutor general was then raised and accepted by the council. The council replied to the resignation of the revolution prosecutor general:

In His exalted name. On 25 December 1983, during Supreme Judicial Council session No 493, the issue of the resignation of the revolution prosecutor general was raised. Considering the Majlis approval dated 1 May 1983 and after discussion and appraisal, with thanks to the revolution prosecutor general for his efforts in managing the prosecutor general's office, the resignation was accepted. The council there and then asked the state prosecutor general to arrange the transfer and reorganization of the revolution prosecutor general's office. The prosecutors' offices should be managed in accordance with the laws and approval of the Majlis and the Revolution Council.

According to this report, representatives of the legal bureau of the Supreme Judicial Council were present for the latter part of the session and the necessary decisions were made regarding problems, bills of law, and letters sent to the council.

Radio Iran Comments

GF231724 Clandestine Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Following the verdicts issued by the so-called army court on the cases of the military members of the Tudeh Party, it has been reported that the president of the revolution courts, Musavi-Tabrizi, has resigned his post in protest to the verdicts.

According to our reports, Musavi-Tabrizi went to visit Khomeyni after the verdicts were announced and then handed his resignation to him. Currently, the power struggle among the various factions of the regime has intensified due to the disagreements of the so-called judicial officials of the Islamic Republic on the verdicts of the Tudeh trials. It is reported that the Islamic Republic of Ruhollah Khomeyni has acted forcefully to halt any publicity on this disagreement.

Mohammadi-Reyshahri, head of the so-called revolution court of the army, announced that the trial of 30 members of Feda'iyan-e Khalq — majority branch — will start in his court. Even though the majority branch had clearly announced its support for the Tudeh Party since the division in the Feda'iyan-e Khalq Organization, Reyshahri announced — as if it is a great discovery — that he is in possession of important documents showing that the organization's majority branch has been in contact with the Tudeh Party.

President Khamene'i Refers to U.S. Threats

LD231459 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Excerpts] A group of courageous combatants from 'Ali ibn Abutalib Division, who took part in the Val-Fajr IV operations, this morning met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, head of the Supreme Defense Council. At the meeting, the head of the Supreme Defense Council referred to the threats made by the United States against the Islamic Revolution and its increasing growth in the region. We have always stated that despite its show of power in the region, the United States is afraid of face-to-face confrontation with the Islamic Revolution. So it should be, since America's confrontation with the revolution and the Islamic Republic in this region would destroy all U.S. interests. They have made every threat possible to date, but if American policymakers and planners and Iraq's supporters and allies give in to adventurist temptations in this region, we will not refrain from responding. Obviously, anything that suffers repeated blows from the Islamic Revolution and Islam will be defeated. As long as the enemies of the Islamic Revolution intend to force a nation and a revolution into submission we will continue our resistance; we are certain that this resistance will be successful and victorious.

In another part of his speech, the Supreme Defense Council head referred to the divine assistance and to the fear of all oppressive powers of the world with regard to this. In its fear, the world oppression is taking all sorts of measures to fight this revolution. Conferences are held which on the surface are mere conferences but which are, in fact, means to fight the growing Islamic movement in the region. The conferences are to support the Muslim nations of the world in name, but their decisions are in direct contrast to the Muslim nations' interests. America's views are voiced there.

At the end of the meeting, the combatants of the 'Ali ibn Abutalib Division donated 600,000 rials to help the construction of the great Tehran Mossala; the head of the Supreme Defense Council thanked the combatants of Islam, who fight with their lives and possessions.

Inclusion on Exporting Terrorism List Viewed

GF241620 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The United States has decided to include the Islamic Republic on the list of countries that export terrorism to the world. We have to analyze this decision in the following way. Let us agree beforehand on the meaning of the word "terrorism." What is terrorism and what are its characteristics?

Terrorism is to impose something political, military, or ideological by force. Imposing the Camp David accords over Egypt of

As-Sadat is political terrorism. Imposing the Zionist-Phalangist accord over the Lebanese people is political terrorism. The Zionist military invasion of Lebanon is military terrorism. The invasion of Grenada, the attacks by Saddam's missiles against our cities, and the invasion of Afghanistan are examples of military terrorism.

The U.S. inclusion of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the list of terrorism means some kind of a plot is at hand. We are glad over the U.S. decision because it reveals an enormous folly which they are trying to commit against our people. Our pleasure can be clearly explained. We have been preoccupied all this time with the agents of the United States; the time is ripe for us to face the great satan and to degrade its dignity. We think that the great devil is hatching a plot to confront the Islamic Revolution which has spread to engulf the Islamic Maghreb.

The United States is a true example of international terrorism and it is high time for the Muslim peoples to confront this terrorism and give a lesson on manners to the great satan. And soon this will take place.

Shultz Remarks on Terrorism Examined

GF250736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0446 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Is United States Plotting or Having Nightmare?"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In response to remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and his threat that the United States will resort to preventative measures against Muslim revolutionaries, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a quick and timely response, warned the United States that should it attempt any adventurism in Lebanon, Syria, or other places, then its interests will be threatened everywhere. The threatening remarks by Shultz were uttered while the international situation is undergoing specific changes. Thus, the relationship between the changes and Shultz' remarks cannot be ignored.

The American plan to strengthen the foundations of the government of Amin al-Jumayyil has failed or reached a dead end as a result of the ceaseless struggle of the masses and the Muslim forces in Lebanon. Thus, the United States cannot go forward or retreat. In North Africa, the uprising of the Muslim masses has caused the earth to shake below the feet of the U.S. mercenary regimes. With respect to the imposed war, all efforts to save Saddam's regime have been unsuccessful. Thus, the question is posed to the oppressionist world about whether the regime of Saddam, armed to the teeth with the most modern weapons, can stand up to the Islamic army. The situation can be summarized in one stentence. The U.S. oppression is stuck with respect to the Islamic movement in the region. In addition, the forthcoming U.S. presidential elections and other matters, especially the current face-off between the Eastern and Western oppression on the issue of nuclear weapons and, finally, the recent meeting between the Soviet and American foreign secretaries, Shultz and Gromyko, has to be taken into consideration when reviewing the situation the United States is facing or is trying to create.

Considering the above, as Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out, there are two alternatives: either the United States is stuck in a nightmare and in order to escape from it is prepared to resort to any unwise adventurism or there is a new plot hatching and the United States has been preparing the groundwork for it for some time. There is also the possibility that Reagan and his cronies want to create a foreign uproar on the eve of the announcement of Reagan's candidacy for a second presidential term in order to divert U.S. public opinion from their domestic woes.

Considering the weakness of the government of Al-Jumayyil and the staunch decision by the forces opposing him to continue the struggle, Reagan has concluded that Al-Jumayyil's government cannot continue its life without the presence of the Western forces and that the evacuation of these forces from Lebanon will be a big U.S. defeat. Thus, the United States is looking for an excuse to bring about special conditions for a graceful evacuation from Lebanon. However, the creation of such conditions is another problem since the U.S. efforts to expand the sphere of control of Al-Jumayyil's government even in small areas like the suburbs of Beirut, via the use of such means as the Conference of National Reconciliation and the implementation of the security plan, have been defeated. Now the situation in Lebanon is at a dead end in the truest meaning of the word and the United States, which does not want to accept the realities of Lebanon, is stuck there and is using excuses, such as opposing terrorism, to justify its threats and wild cries.

Considering the domestic and foreign woes the United States is facing, is it capable of carrying out such adventurism? Considering the extensive political, social, and economic crisis the Zionist regime is facing, can it play a role in such crazy adventures? There are many other questions which we do not want to discuss here. Aside from this, the important issue is that the United States is currently facing an immense and daily increasing Islamic movement in the entire region, nay in the whole world. This movement does not recognize collusion and cannot be offered deals with respect to oppressionist plots. This movement, which stems from a historical struggle, is not only endangering the interests of the oppression, it is endangering its very being. The oppression, which does not have the nature to drop cruelty and oppression and surrender to justice and truth, is trying to stand up to the truth by adventurism and desperate moves. Naturally, the Islamic Republic of Iran, as the center for this new popular movement, has constantly been the main target of the oppression. It may be that the oppression is falsely thinking that it can destroy the entire movement by attacking it at the heart. We see that the oppression started extensive propaganda on the issue of terrorism some time ago, has branded the truth-seeking struggle of the oppressed in the various parts of the region and the world terrorism, and is now referring to the Islamic Republic of Iran as terrorism's center!

Maybe the oppression thinks that it can prepare world public opinion to accept a military move against the Islamic Republic of Iran through such propaganda. It is interesting to note that the U.S. oppression is currently behaving like an individual suffering from a terrorizing dream who is trashing in despair to rid himself from the nightmare. We in turn have no qualms about facing this and will not resort to sloganism. As Hojjat ol-Eslam

Hashemi-Rafsanjani has stressed, we will continue to maintain our fundamental position and, as always, we will do our utmost to battle the adventurism which may stop popular moves. In this struggle we rely first and foremost on the justness of our position and on the infinite power of the Lord. We, as the Islamic Republic of Iran, with defined borders, are not the sole subject of this struggle. What is at stake is the immense Islamic movement which has engulfed the Muslim masses in the entire region and the world and there is no doubt that they will be the victors. The oppression must also realize that we do not think of a military victory. We are trying to carry out our religious duties, an issue repeatedly raised by the imam of the nation.

It is in this framework that we support all the masses in their struggle against oppression and also are supported by all the Muslim masses in our struggle against oppression. It is with this powerful weapon that we answer U.S. threats so that the United States will realize that any adventure, whether in Lebanon, the Persian Gulf, or any other place, will engulf the United States in not only another Vietnam but in a sea of fire which will not be comparable with the hell of Vietnam. Our word is and has always been what the leader and the imam of the Islamic nation has said. The United States cannot do a damn thing.

Majlis Speaker Stresses Support for Palestinians
GE250557 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] According to our correspondent, Mr Mohtashami, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Syria, met Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday and gave him a report on the political-military situation of the region, the plots of the United States and the regime occupying Jerusalem against the Muslims of Lebanon, political and military aggressions of the United States and the regime occupying Jerusalem against Syria, and the situation of the multinational interventionist forces and the Zionist regime's forces in Lebanon. During the meeting, the Iranian ambassador to Syria also reviewed current changes that the PLO is undergoing, some of the suffering of the Palestinians, aid to the Palestinian people, the daily increasing resistance of the Muslim people of Beirut and southern Lebanon against the occupiers, and the expansion of the martyrdom-seeking attitude among the Muslim Lebanese masses.

The Majlis speaker then said: We have and will continue to support the Palestinian nation and will not be disinterested in matters which would mean aiding Palestinian resistance. Referring to the expansion of the Islamic moves by the Palestinian youth within the occupied land, Hashemi-Rafsanjani called the ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic as very good and stressed the solidity and strength of such ties. Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised the moves by Muslims against the United States and the regime occupying Jerusalem: The Islamic Republic of Iran continues to support the actions of the Lebanese faithful.

Velayati Meets With Lebanese Religious Leader
LD241846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadallah, one of Lebanon's Shi'ite ulema, met and conferred this afternoon with Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati. During this meeting, referring to common feelings and the depth of ancient relations between Lebanese Shi'ites and the Islamic Revolution of Iran in the past and present, Mr Velayati emphasized the need for expanding the struggles of Muslims against Zionist and U.S. occupiers and their Western allies. He added: All forces and capabilities should be used in the service of the Islamic revolution in Lebanon and in the struggle against the enemies of Islam.

At the end of the meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadallah described the present situation in Lebanon and the position of the Shi'ites of that country.

Seminar on Olympics Issues 8-Point Resolution
LD251037 Tehran IRNA in English 0901 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Tehran, Jan 24 IRNA — The two day seminar to study Iran's boycott of '84 Olympics, in Los Angeles, U.S.A., called on the world athletes, Monday, to reveal the true nature of the United States by boycotting the games.

In its 8-point resolution, issued after the conclusion of the seminar, the participants stressed that the United States was involved in crimes against the oppressed of the world, therefore, it (the U.S.) is not qualified to host the Olympic Games, the resolution noted.

The resolution condemned the U.S. domineering attitude and aggression in Islamic countries and all other places in the world including Lebanon, and furthermore castigated the U.S. for its support for the Zionist regime and the apartheid regime in South Africa, terming it contradictory to the Olympic Charter.

The resolution also called on the world mass media to limit its coverage of the '84 Olympics in Los Angeles and thus disgrace news imperialism.

In the resolution Iranian athletes emphasised the importance of sports and physical training, saying that athletic events in the world should not be exploited by superpowers and should be free from their domination.

Iranian Minister of Education 'Ali Akbar Parvaresh who was also present at the seminar said that the United States and the Soviet Union both exploit such international events for attaining their own intersts and to the detriment of athletes.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 1,614

LD241801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Communique No 1,614 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday Islam's victorious troops and the Saddamist mercenaries exchanged artillery and heavy weapons fire on most of the country's northwestern fronts, from the front opposite Piranshah to the Marivan and Panjwin fronts. Heavy fire by our forces' artillery destroyed more than 20 percent of the enemy's positions and trenches in the Hajj 'Umran operational zone and killed or wounded some 100 Iraqi servicemen in that area.

In the Sar Dasht region, the exchange of fire was more intense than on previous days and, in the Marivan operational zone, Islam's combatants continued to strengthen and consolidate their defensive positions, dispatched patrol groups, and opened timely fire, controlling the Saddamist forces' movements and displacements, disrupting or halting the enemy's engineering activities and consolidation of his positions, and setting one of their motor parks ablaze, destroying six of the Saddamists' light and heavy vehicles and killing or wounding a number of enemy servicemen.

On the border fronts in Bakhtaran, Ilam, and in the south, our forces and the aggressor enemy continued to exchange sporadic fire, as intensive fire was confined mainly to the Sumar region. On these fronts, Islam's combata its carried out defensive actions and dispatched patrol groups into the enemy's defensive zones, opened artillery and mortar fire on the Saddamists' infantry, tank, and artillery positions, highways, and supply points; silenced the enemy's fire and checked his operational activities and movement in every region by destroying parts of his weapons emplacements and troop positions and killing a number of servicemen.

In the Mehran region, an enemy patrol group clashed with units guarding our forces and, after 30 minutes of clashes and firing the enemy fled the scene, having suffered losses and casualties. On one of the southern fronts, our patrol groups carried out patrol and reconnaissance missions and captured several light weapons, mortar ammunition, and one of the Saddamists' radios and moved it to the rear of our front lines.

During the exchange of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the Gendarmerie combatants and other Islamic warriors opened retaliatory fire on the Saddamists' positions and fortifications, inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces, and destroyed six enemy squad trenches, foxholes, and observation posts, together with the servicemen manning them.

Yesterday in Abadan, five houses and shops were destroyed as a result of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenary criminals' fire.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

More Expellees From Kuwait Arrive in Bushehr

LD211959 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Following the hostile actions taken by the Government of Kuwait in the last few days, 47 more Iranians who were residents of that country have been expelled by the security police of Kuwait and have arrived in Bushehr via the Persian Gulf borders. A number of them reportedly were imprisoned for 17 days and were released after being beaten up. Marks left by these assaults can be seen on their bodies.

16 Arrive on 22 January

GF231630 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government has expelled 16 more Iranians from that country. According to the Central News Unit, these people arrived in Bushehr yesterday in a motor launch and were housed in a special camp set up by the Bushehr governorate-general for this purpose.

Radio Iran Reports Clashes in Kordestan

GF241602 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] An armed clash took place between Iranian army personnel and the revolution guards of Khomeyni near the village of Sangi in Kordestan. Two soldiers and one local citizen were killed by the revolution guards. After the incident,the regime ordered all camps in (Alandi), Sar Dasht, and (Kuh Nuri) not to allow any conscript or regular soldier to enter the area without being accompanied by a revolution guards or a member of the mobilized forces.

NVOI Condemns Fratricide in Kordestan

LA242030 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary: "In This Struggle, Victory Belongs to Our Nation"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The policy of bloodshed and murder by the Islamic regime's tyrannical and despotic rulers against the patriotic Kurdish people retains a special place in their black record. For more than 4 years now, the rulers of the Islamic regime have imposed a destructive war of fratricide on our Kurdish brothers. The outcome of the bloody and imposed war by the Islamic regime on the free Kurdish people has been that thousands of innocent and defenseless people have been killed and wounded and thousands of homes have been destroyed in Kordestan's towns and villages. The Islamic regime, under the pretext of allegedly raising the banner of Islam in Kordestan, but actually in order to relieve its thirst for murder, is continuing this war of fratricide in the most savage manner.

Rulers of Iran's Islamic regime are claiming that they intend to look into the situation of the Muslim Kurdish people and that they will carry out measures for the construction of roads, baths, schools, clinics, and so forth. But in practice all they do is massacre innocent and defenseless people and destroy the villages and towns of Kordestan. These are those so-called development and construction measures by the Islamic regime in the tragic-stricken land of our Kordestan.

As we are aware, the Islamic Republic's regime launched the attack against the Kurdish people treacherously and insidiously, the same as the offensive against all true patriotic revolutionary forces. The attack on Kordestan was a prelude to rejection by the hypocritical Islamic rulers of the Iranian nation's revolutionary aims and slogans. On the one hand, they started talks with representatives of the Kurdish people and, on the other, they treacherously sent the army to Kordestan and embarked on massacring innocent people in this province.

What are the Kurdish people demanding? The Kurdish people demand that their ethnic rights, within the framework of a united country and Iran's territorial integrity, be officially recognized. Following the victory of our nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution, the Kurdish people expected and continue to expect that their legitimate and just demands will be attended to and that these demands will be implemented. The Kurdish people demand an end to poverty, deprivation, and backwardness. They demand that their individual reputation not be tampered with. The Kurdish people demand that their natural and legal rights be granted, namely, that they may enjoy administrative and cultural autonomy. The demands of the Kurdish people are just, legitimate, and legal. All free Iranian people and true revolutionary forces have supported and continue to support these demands by our Kurdish brothers.

It is undeniable that a problem — the ethnic problem — exists in our multinational country. This problem must be settled not by military campaigns, war, and fratricide, but by recognizing the ethnic rights of the Iranian people. Even as far back as 1979, the Iranian Tudeh Party, in a statement, reiterated that the Kurdish problem is a social, economic, cultural, and above all, political problem. It is a problem of an oppressed and deprived people who have the right to be liberated from national oppression. Without the removal of social and national oppression, the way to freedom and personal happiness will not be opened for them.

The Islamic Government's treacherous onslaught against Kordestan showed that what is of no concern to this regime is the freedom, happiness, and progress of all the Iranian people, including the patriotic Kurdish people who offered many sacrifices for the revolution and its victory. The Islamic regime's suppressive policy, which started with an onslaught against the people of Kordestan, and is currently occupied with the savage offensive against dissenters and all true revolutionary forces — whether Tudeh, Mojahed, Feda'i, or struggling Muslims — has manifested itself in the form of the establishment of a despotic, tyrannical, and fascist regime clothed in an Islamic garb.

Our country's present situation indicates that the Islamic regime's rulers have extended implementation of a suppressive policy against the toiling and patriotic Kurdish people to the entire country. Thus, they have openly betrayed the revolution's popular goals and have led the revolution to the brink of defeat and destruction. Our homeland's alert people condemn the Islamic regime's antinational and suppressive policy, both with respect to the Kurdish people and to other true revolutionary patriotic forces.

Our homeland's people are struggling to end the war of fratricide in Kordestan, to establish the rule of law in the country, and to fulfill the revolution's popular, democratic, and anti-imperialist aspirations and goals. In this struggle, victory belongs to our nation.

Radio Iran Cites Protests, Demonstrations

Bakhtiari va Chahar Mahall

GF241710 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] According to nationalist sources, a great number of people in Farrokhshahr in Bakhtiari va Chahar MahallProvince have held demonstrations protesting the policies of the executive and judicial officials of the Islamic regime and the unnerving conditions in their lives. They marched through the city and shouted slogans against the regime and its bloodthirsty officials.

The heroic demonstrations of the people of Farrokshahr so frightened the regime of the Islamic Republic that it sent a great number of revolution guards, mobilized personnel, and committee workers from Shahr-e Kord to Farrokhshahr. During this show of force, Mullah Taqavi, Khomeyni's representative and Friday imam of Shahr-e Kord and Shahdust, and the governor of Bakhtiari va Chahar Mahall arrived in Khorramshahr and made many promises of economic and development programs to calm the people. They also asked the people to immediately disperse.

The same report says that when the people refused to comply with these orders, Mullah Taqavi warned them that if they did not disperse they would be fired upon. However, the protesters paid little attention to these threats and continued shouting slogans. Mullah Taqavi at this point ordered the revolution guards to throw tear gas at the people. When these were thrown, the angry and weeping people attacked the revolution guards and a bitter clash ensued between the people and the armed mercenaries of the regime, which resulted in many injuries.

The governor, in a statement to *ETTELA'AT*, condemned this irresponsible action by the people and called it antirevolutionary and directed from outside the country.

Taxi Drivers' Demands

GF241656 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] More than 1,000 Tehran taxi drivers are striking for the second day now in front of the cooperative store selling goods used by taxi drivers. They are demanding their share of tire

quotas. However, when the regime's officials refused to provide them tires, the taxi drivers began shouting slogans and protested against the cruel policies of Khomeyni's regime.

Prime Minister Addresses Nuclear Scientists

LD241111 Tehran IRNA in English 0928 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 24, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said here Monday that after the victory of the Islamic revolution, services of the experts have been put at the disposal of the oppressed people in the society. Addressing a group of scientists and head of the Iran Atomic Energy Organisation, the prime minister noted that efforts should be made to pave the way for the carrying out of laborious tasks with no help from foreign experts.

He stressed that the scientists would gain the maximum benefit from scientific researches only when they had found a firm position among their oppressed and Muslim nations.

Prime Minister Musavi said that prior to the victory of the Islamic revolution, scientists not only had no link with the people but were at the service of big powers. The most precious gift the Iranian nation presented to its scientists was to provide them an opportunity to employ their knowledge for the betterment of the oppressed.

Khamene'i Discusses OPEC Role With Nigerian Envoy

LD221202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The Nigerian Government's special envoy, (?Nasku), accompanied by the Nigerian charge d'affaires in Iran, met with Khamene'i today and delivered his government's message to our country's president.

In the course of the meeting, also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, Khamene'i, having cited the support of the Islamic Revolution for the oppressed and repressed peoples of the world, said: The Islamic Revolution of Iran and the Islamic Republic, based on Islam, has always been and will continue to be at the side of the oppressed and repressed people. We will adhere to whatever is adhered to by the people.

Referring to global, arrogant plots in plundering the deprived people, the president said: World powers pursue objectives against the Third World, particularly the deprived Continent of Africa. A definite and final solution to these instigations is for nations to rise and resist and then put an end to colonialist culture.

Explaining the blessings granted the Third World countries by God Almighty and pointing to material, spiritual, and manpower potentials of these countries, Khamene'i added: As a case in point, I would like to refer to the invaluable oil resources enjoyed by a great many Third World countries. I believe that today the countries which are politically and militarily weak can, by relying on the power of oil, take action against world powers. Referring to OPEC's role — a powerful focal point in the service of oil-producing countries — the president said: Unfortunately, it is observed that colonialist policies are aimed at bringing OPEC under their own service. Nigeria can, by adopting a clear and decisive stand, play a definitive role in confronting this plot.

Concluding his remarks by stressing the Islamic Republic's policy in increasing oil prices, Khamene'i emphasized: We strongly oppose an increase in oil production. We believe that oil as a weapon must be controlled by the oil-producing countries. As for the pressures applied on OPEC prices so far, which may continue in the future, it is a betrayal of all nations belonging to OPEC.

The Nigerian special envoy left Tehran this morning.

Daily Oil Production Reaches 673,000 Barrels

LD241352 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The Oil Ministry has announced that on the eve of the fifth anniversary of the Islamic Republic of Iran, due to the efforts of committed employees of the oil industry, the quantity of refined oil produced has reached 673,000 barrels per day. This increase in production was achieved during the month of Dey [22 December-20 January] for the first time and is 22 percent higher than the previous record for the country's refineries.

Esfahan Court Expels Afghan Refugees

GF241650 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Jan 84 p 13

[Text] Esfahan's no 1 criminal court has ordered the expulsion of 18 Afghans for moral corruption. The group had recently been arrested by law enforcement officials in the city for corrupting morality in Esfahan. They have been handed over to the executive officials for the implementation of the court order.